

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

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R 061059Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1722

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

CINCPAC

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD AND AMBASSADOR WHITEHOUSE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, EAID, LA

SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN'S REPORT ON DECEMBER 4 CABINET MEETING

1. PGNU SPOKESMAN OUDAY SOUVANNAVONG BRIEFED PRESS DECEMBER 5 ON PREVIOUS DAY'S CABINET MEETING IN LUANG PRABANG. HE NOTED THAT PRIME MINISTER SOUVANNA PHOUMA IS IN GOOD HEALTH AND HAD PRESIDED.

2. OUDAY SAID DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER PHOUMI VONGVICHIT RE-PORTED FORMALLY ON PGNU'S CONDUCT OF AFFAIRS DURING SOUVANNA'S ABSENCE. PRIME MINISTER EXPRESSED HIS SATISFACTION AT MANNER IN WHICH GOVERNMENT HAD OPERATED.

3. IN CONTEXT OF DISCUSSION OF INTERNAL SECURITY, OUDAY SAID, CABINET DECIDED TO ASK PRESS AND RADIO SERVICES OF BOTH SIDES TO CEASE MUTUAL ATTACKS AND ALL OTHER "ACTIVITIES" THAT COULD AFFECT GOVERNMENTAL STABILITY

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AND SECURITY OF KINGDOM. OUDAY ADDED A PERSONAL APPEAL

TO MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES TO HELP GOVERNMENT PROMOTE RECONCILIATION BY CEASING ATTACKS. (COMMENT: MINISTRY OF INFORMATION OFFICIAL TOLD USIS OFFICER THAT THIS DECISION WAS ENGINEERED BY VIENTIANE SIDE CABINET MEMBERS AND WAS AIMED AT RADIO PATHET LAO AND LPF'S DAILY NEWS BULLETIN; LPF PERSONNEL ALREADY PARTICIPATE TO SOME EXTENT IN RUNNING NATIONAL RADIO AND AGENCE LAO PRESSE, SO THESE AGENCIES ARE EFFECTIVELY OUT OF THE PROPAGANDA BATTLE.)

4. OTHERWISE, OUDAY SAID, CABINET APPROVED WITH SLIGHT MODIFICATIONS BUDGET OF JOINT NATIONAL POLITICAL COUNCIL (JNPC) AND MADE SOME AMENDMENTS TO JNPC'S PROVISIONAL DOCUMENT ON DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS BEFORE RETURNING IT TO JNPC FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION.

5. HE ADDED THAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH USSR OVER AID PROJECTS PROVIDED FOR IN DECEMBER 1962 AGREEMENT WILL TAKE PLACE WHEN SOVIET DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER FIRYUBIN PAYS HIS (POSTPONED) VISIT TO LAOS AT UNSPECIFIED DATE (VIENTIANE 8301 AND 8754).

6. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION, OUDAY CONFIRMED THAT PHOUMI HAD AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO REPAY THAI FOREIGN MINISTER'S RECENT VISIT, BUT NO DATES HAD YET BEEN SET.
CHAPMAN

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